THE TENTH
#1
$2.99 US
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DARK HORSE COMICS
TONY DANIEL
ROMANO
THE
TENTH
RESURRECTED
DIRECT SALES

THE TENTH

#1

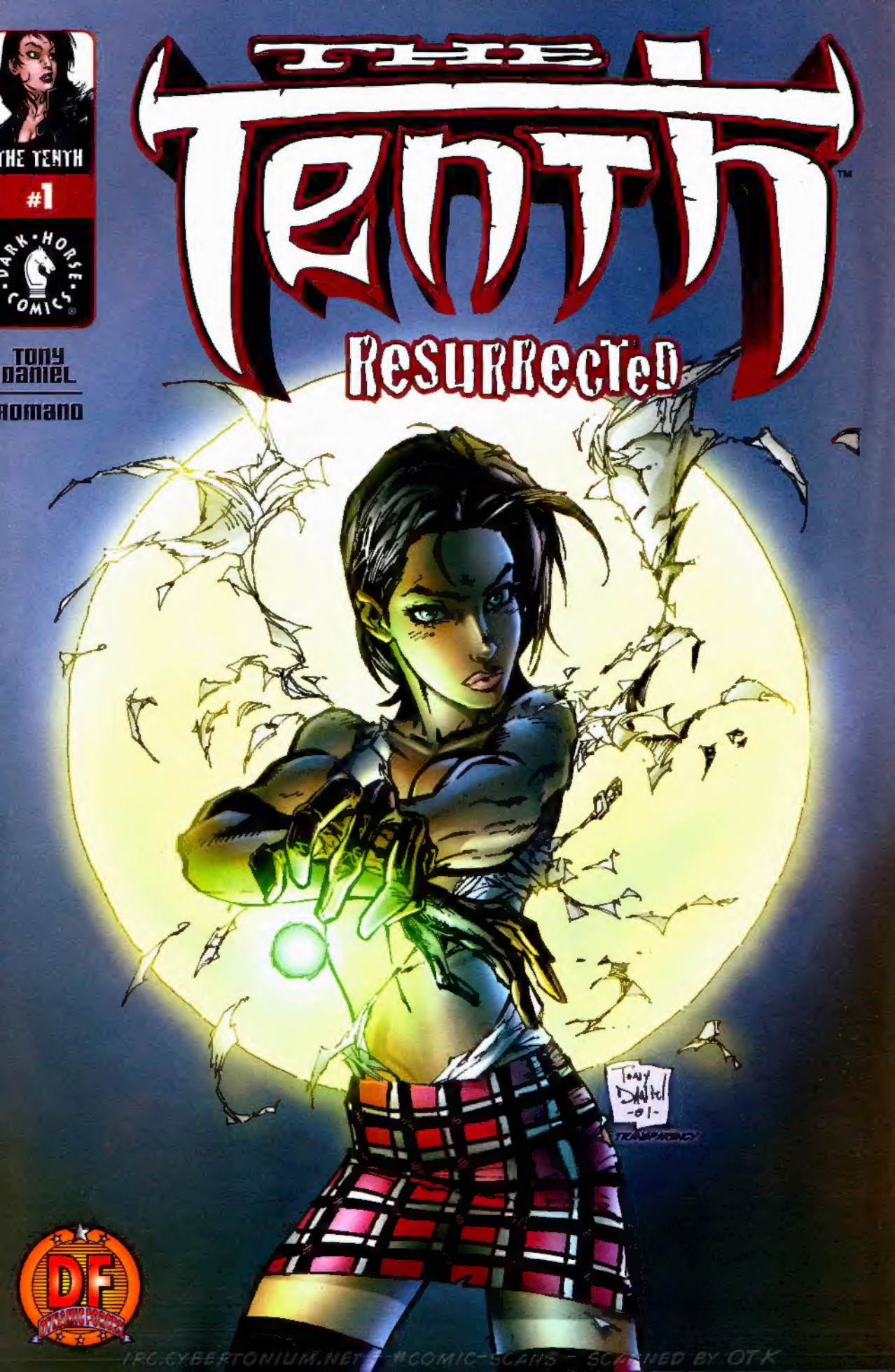
DARK HORSE COMICS

TONY DANIEL

ROMANO

THE TENTH™

RESURRECTED



IRC.CYBERTONIUM.NET - #COMIC-SCANS - SCANNED BY OTK

EVANSTON COUNTY MORGUE.
JANE DOE
HEY, KID, STOP RIGHT THERE.
HUH?
WE NEED TO LOOK UNDER THE COVERS...IF YOU DON'T MIND.
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
WHUMP
JESUS. WHAT IS THIS?!
SH-SHOTGUN TO THE HEAD, SIR...
YOU WANT TO SEE SOMETHIN' REALLY MESSED UP, TAKE A LOOK AT BOX three twenty seven -- ROOM three C!
HAHAHAHA
SCANNED BY OTK

CREAAAK
BINGO.
YOU SEE IT?
NO. BUT I CAN SMELL IT.
SHE WAS HERE.
I'LL CALL IN FOR BACKUP.
"NO NEED...
...SHE'S GONE."

RESURRECTED
PART 1
CREATED AND WRITTEN BY
TONY DANIEL
ART BY
ROMANO!
...PUT SOME CANDLES IN HIS EYES, AND WATCH OUT! HE COMES TO LIFE! I'LL SHOW YOU--
COLORS BY TRANSPARENCY DIGITAL
LETTERS BY KATHLEEN and DANA at FISHBRAIN
SPECIAL THANKS TO VERONICA

PUBLISHER MICHAEL RICHARDSON

PUBLISHED BY DARK HORSE COMICS

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SPRINGDALE...
...IN THE UNDERGROUND SEWERS, BELOW THE RUINS OF DARKKLON.*
*this was ground zero for Rhazzes Darkk's attempted re-colonization of earth. --Tony
IT IS FOOLISH TO THINK THAT HE WOULD BE AFRAID OF THIS PILE OF RAVAGED STEEL AND CABLES.
BUT IF IT SERVES AS NOTHING MORE THAN TO REMIND HIM HE'S COME HOME NOW...
...so be it.
BELIEVE ME--HE'LL BE SCARED.
JUST WATCH THE GLOWING EFFECT THE CANDLES CREATE!
SEE?!
DARKKEN MASTER ...I SERVE YOU WELL!

WE HAVE MUCH TO DO, DARKK SERVANTS. THERE WILL BE NO TIME FOR HORSEPLAY.
WE MUST REVEAL OURSELVES TO RHAZES DARKK, OUR LEADER, AND SHOW HIM THAT WE ARE CAPABLE SERVANTS, WORTHY OF HIS MERCY.
WE BRING HIM, AND HIS SPECIES, SALVATION.
AND WE WILL OFFER IT...FOR OUR LIVES.
MASTER, WHEN DO WE APPROACH LORD RHAZES?
SOON, BROTHER GLEASON.
TIME IS NOT ON OUR SIDE.
THE DOCTOR WARNS ME THAT WE ARE RUNNING LOW ON TRANQUILIZERS.
WE CANNOT EXPECT TO CONTAIN HIM FOR MUCH LONGER.

M.NET - #COMIC-SCANS - SCANNED BY OTK

PLEKK
PLEKK
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS.

CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CACAWW
ENTZE
P
CRASSH!!
-WOOWOO WOOWOO WOO

I'M SORRY, ANTONIO. I'VE JUST BEEN TOO BUSY LATELY.
I KNOW—
I KNOW—
HOW ABOUT YOU CALL ME NEXT SATURDAY? I'LL BE—
BEEP BEEP
HOLD ON ...I GOT ANOTHER CALL...
HELLO?
WHO!??!
TEN MINUTES LATER...
IT'S LIKE I WOKE UP OUT OF A HORRIBLE NIGHTMARE OR SOMETHING...
...THAT'S ALL I CAN REMEMBER, ZORINA.
ZORINA?
ZORINA? ARE YOU THERE?

oh my god. it is you. I can't believe it. Where are you?
YOUR FATHER TOLD ME NOT TO TELL YOU. HE SAID HE'S ON HIS WAY TO MEET ME I'M SURE WE'LL CONTACT YOU AS SOON AS IT'S SAFE.
I gotta go. Here he comes now.
I'VE LISTENED TO YOU FOR TEN MINUTES AND SISTER...
...I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE, OR WHY YOU THINK THIS IS FUNNY...BUT SOPY IS DEAD.
YOU HEAR ME? DEAD!
WAIT, ZORINA! WHAT CAN I DO TO PROVE IT'S ME? THAT I'M ALIVE?
THEN, YOU WOULD KNOW WHO MY REAL FATHER IS...
JAFFE. SAM JAFFE IS YOUR FATHER. YOU FOUND OUT JUST BEFORE I...
...you know.
ESPERANZA? HANG UP THE PHONE.
PLEASE.

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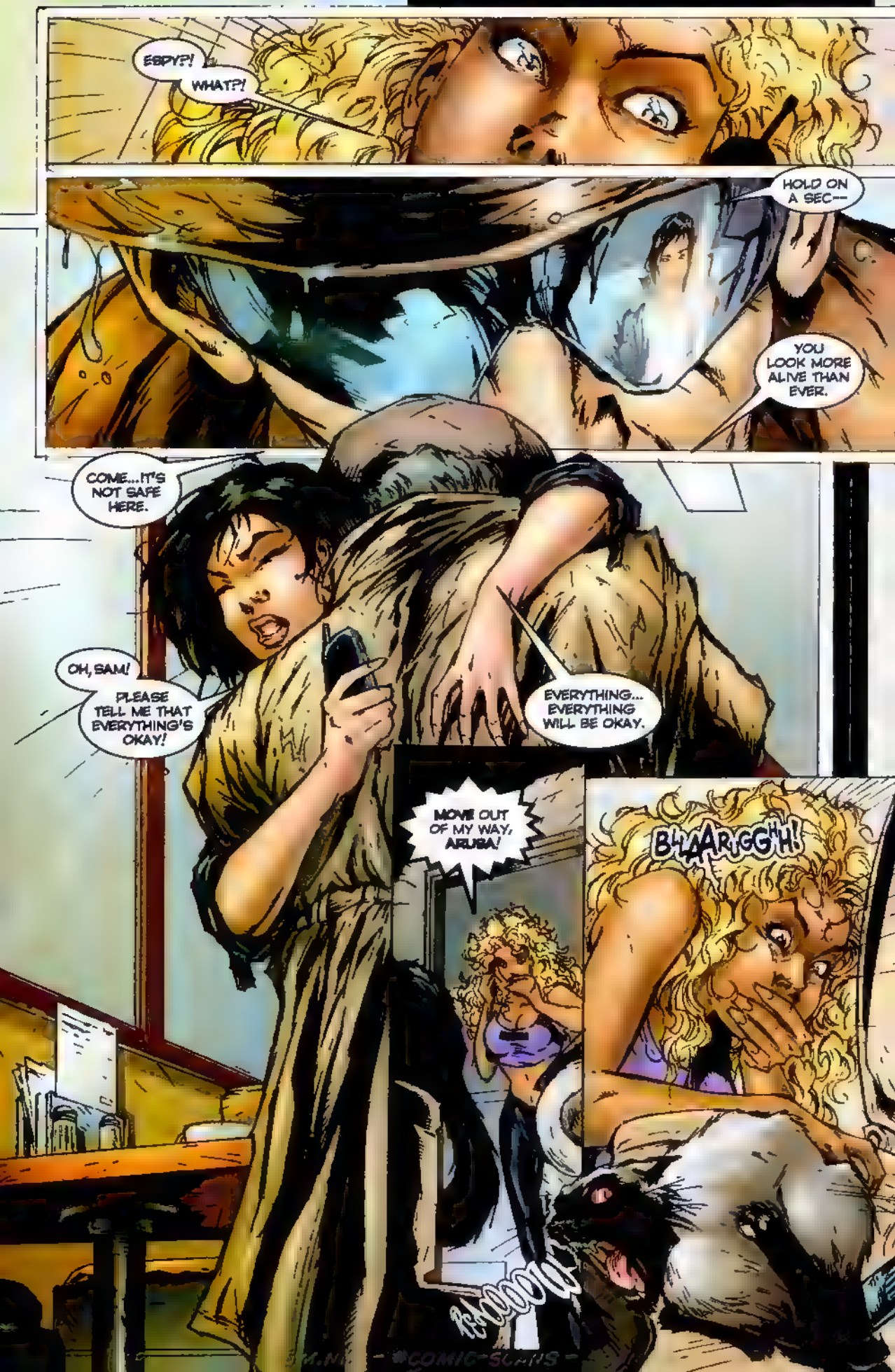
EBPY?!
WHAT?!
HOLD ON A SEC--
YOU LOOK MORE ALIVE THAN EVER.
COME...IT'S NOT SAFE HERE.
OH, SAM!
PLEASE TELL ME THAT EVERYTHING'S OKAY!
EVERYTHING... EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY.
MOVE OUT OF MY WAY, ARUBA!
B'AARGG'H!
KKKKK
M.N. - #COMIC-SLATE -

MAD COW DISEASE CAUSED BY ALIENS?
R.I.P.
IT'S IN SUCH BAD TASTE TO HAVE YOU SECOND TO THE MAD COW DISEASE STORY.
SHOULD I DESTROY THIS PAPER?
R.I.P.
SLURP SLURP
R.I.P.
R.I.P.
NO.
LEAVE IT FOR ME TO READ LATER.
I ENJOY A GOOD LAUGH BEFORE BEDTIME THESE DAYS.

IT MATTERS NOT WHAT PEOPLE SAY OR DON'T SAY ABOUT ME.
ONLY WHAT THEY PERCEIVE
HOW DO THEY PERCEIVE ME, BLACKSPELL?
AS A SAVIOR, MASTER.
AND A SAVIOR, YOU ARE.
SHOW ME.
RHAZES DA
SCIENCE'S DARLING.
GOOD.
IT IS THE PEOPLE, AFTER ALL, WHO'VE ELEVATED ME TO SUCH STATURE
POK
CRUNCH
I WILL MAKE SURE THEY SUFFER A GENTLE DEMISE.

CAN IT BE, MASTER--THAT *THEIR* TIME HERE ON EARTH HAS FINALLY EXPIRED?
INDEED, THEIR CLOCK TICKS...BUT WE CANNOT FORGET THAT THERE IS ONE **CRUCIAL** ELEMENT LEFT TO COMPLETE OUR LIFE CYCLE...
THAT BEING **THE TENTH** ONE.
I TRUST THAT WE WILL BE WHOLE AGAIN SOON.
HE CANNOT HIDE FOREVER.
BESIDES... NOW WE HAVE HELP.
CRK CRACK
CRACK CRACK
CRK CRACK
CRACK CRK ACK
GENTLEMEN... PLEASE COME IN.

CAWW CAW
CAWW
SAM...I NEED YOU TO BE HONEST WITH ME.
VICTOR--IS THERE ANY CHANCE THAT HE MAY STILL BE ALIVE? SOMEWHERE UNDERNEATH THE MONSTER?
I CAN STILL SENSE HIM. LIKE I ALWAYS HAVE.
MAYBE IT'S JUST WISHFUL THINKING.
HE'S DEAD, ESPERANZA.
THE MONSTER IS ALL THAT EXISTS NOW.
IT IS GOOD THAT YOU ARE HAVING THESE FEELINGS.
IT WILL HELP US FIND HIM.
CAWW
CAW
CAW
CAW
CAW
S-SAM?
NEVER MIND.

EVANSTON HOSPITAL.
"OH, SAM! FATHER--"
SDEN MEDICAL CENTER
SOMETHING HORRIBLE IS GOING ON.
I KNOW YOU CAN'T HEAR ME, SAM. I'M JUST SO CONFUSED.
ESPY...SHE'S ALIVE. AT LEAST I THINK SHE IS. BUT--SHE'S TALKING WEIRD. SHE TOLD ME YOU TALKED TO HER. THAT YOU WERE MEETING HER...
BUT YOU'RE HERE STILL IN A COMA...WITH A BULLET LODGED IN YOUR BRAIN...*
am I...am I going insane?
*Sam Jaffe was shot in the head while fleeing the government. —Tony.

DARKKEN MASTER!
IT COMES!
SPLASH
SPLASH
HUFF! HUFF! HUFF! HUFF!
ARMAGEDDON COMES!
YOU FOOL-- WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?
ARMAGEDDON, DARKKEN MASTER!
ITS' WRATH HAS SHOWN ITSELF!

THEN WE ARE PREPARED TO FACE OUR LEADER'S WRATH.
TAKE US, SERVANT. TAKE US TO WHERE YOU SAW THIS WRATH.
..BUT IT WAS HERE--I SAW IT WITH MY OWN EYES. I SAW IT REACH RIGHT DOWN AND SWOOP OUR BROTHER INTO THE AIR. IT SWALLOWED HIM WHOLE!
WHAT, SERVANT? WHAT SWOOPED AND SWALLOWED?
A GIANT SERPENT!
THIS, SERVANTS, IS THE SICKNESS WE WILL ALL FACE.
THIS IS THE REASON IT IS RIGHT FOR US TO FOLLOW THE WAY OF THE DARKKEN.
DARKKEN M-MASTER! LOOK!
OOOO
HAHAHA

I MAY VERY WELL BRING YOUR ARMAGEDDON.

HA HAHAHA HAHAHAHA HAHA

YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO FIND BEAUTY IN ALL THINGS, BROTHER.
TAP TAP TAP
AND THIS ONE...
...YEAH, THIS ONE IS BEAUTIFUL.
DOCTOR? BE CAREFUL!
EASY NOW!
GRRWLLLLL
BROTHER— QUICKLY!

SQUEE
SQUEE
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL BEAST.
SQUEE
Next month
MONSTERS, MAYHEM... MADNESS!
RESURRECTED
PART 2

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NEBRASKA/COLORADO BORDER.
24-7 truckstop
SHOP
CLICK CLICK
TAP TAP
YAWN
-GAMP
WHERE ARE WE?
WE'RE ALMOST THERE, ESPY ..
SPRINGDALE—

GROUND ZERO FOR WHAT USED TO BE DARKKLON
MY BRAIN IS BUZZING I KNOW WE CAN'T BE TOO FAR
THAT'S GOOD, ESPY. LET'S JUST HOPE WE'RE NOT TOO LATE.
I WANT TO CALL ZORINA. LET HER KNOW I'M OKAY
NO!
SLAP
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, SAM?!
SHE'S AWAY WITH FRIENDS
YOU WON'T REACH HER.
WELCOME TO COLORADO

MARTY AND I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING OUR FUGITIVE SINCE EVANSTON.
IT'S BEEN SEVENTY-TWO HOURS AND I STILL CAN'T SHAKE THIS QUEZZY FEELING IN THE PIT OF MY STOMACH
I THINK THEY KNOW WE'VE BEEN TAILING THEM.
MARTY SAYS "NO."
IT GETS PRETTY OBVIOUS, ESPECIALLY ON THE LESS TRAVELED ROADS
THIS JOB'S A DEATH SENTENCE, I KEEP TELLING HIM. IF "DEAD GIRL" DOESN'T KILL US, THE CHILI DOGS WILL.
WE'RE HEADING INTO COLORADO ALTHOUGH I'M NOT SURE WHY, I SENSE THE TRIP IS NEARING ITS END AT LEAST MY ASS HOPES SO.
I'M SORRY, ESPY.
I DIDN'T MEAN TO SNAP AT YOU YOU ALRIGHT?
WE'RE BOTH A LITTLE ON EDGE, HUH?
IF YOU DON'T MIND...I'M GOING BACK TO SLEEP.

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IRC.CYBERTRONIUM.NET - #COMIC-SCA

HOW DISGUSTING.
THEN DON'T LOOK
LICK
LICK
LICK
LICK
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH A LITTLE SELF-GRATIFICATION
SLRP
AND DON'T TRY TO TELL ME THAT YOU HAVEN'T PUT THOSE "SNAKES" TO GOOD USE, EVE.
I KNOW ITS BEEN A LONG, LONELY TIME FOR YOU
ARE YOU THROUGH FANTASIZING?
MAYBE, DEPENDING ON WHETHER OR NOT YOU'RE SLIPPING OUT OF THOSE SNAKES.

WHILE WHAT I HAVE TO PROPOSE IS NOT QUITE AS SATISFYING, IT **DOES** MAKE MY MOUTH WATER.
CARE TO HEAR MORE?
WHAT IF I WERE TO TELL YOU THAT I'VE STUMBLED UPON A DORMANT **POWER SOURCE**? ONE SO **STRONG** THAT WE COULD RISE UP AND CONTROL OUR OWN DESTINY?
YOU HAVE MY ATTENTION GO ON
WHAT IF WE WERE TO TRY IT **AGAIN**, TO BE SELF-RELIANT ON OUR OWN WIT FOR A CHANGE?
YOU BLASPHEMOUS SNAKE! WHAT DO YOU HAVE HID NG UNDER YOUR SCALES?
THE TENTH POWER, BLACKIE-POO. COMPLETELY DEFEATED AND OURS TO **ABUSE** ..AND **USE**.
DON'T BE A FOOL WE'VE TRIED ALREADY AND PAID DEARLY.
YES, WE TRIED AND FAILED
BUT THAT WAS BECAUSE WE WERE **DIVIDED**. THE OTHER CHILDREN OF DARKK **RUINED** IT WITH THEIR **GREED**.
I HAVE A PLAN A PLAN TO "SIMPLIFY" BY SUBTRACTION.

YOU, BLACKSPELL. YOU HAVE THE POWER TO ABSORB WHATEVER OR WHOMEVER YOU CONSUME
IN THIS CASE, IT WILL BE OUR FELLOW DARKKLINGS.
KILLKROW, GRAVE, GOZZA– ALL OF THEM.
HSSSSS!
NO!
I WILL NOT LET YOU UNDERMINE OUR MASTER!
TWICE BEFORE, OUR SPECIES HAS BEEN KEPT FROM PROLIFERATION.
ONCE BY THE HANDS OF AN OUTSIDER, THEN BY OUR OWN WARS.
I WILL KILL ANYONE WHO STANDS IN THE WAY!
HSSS!

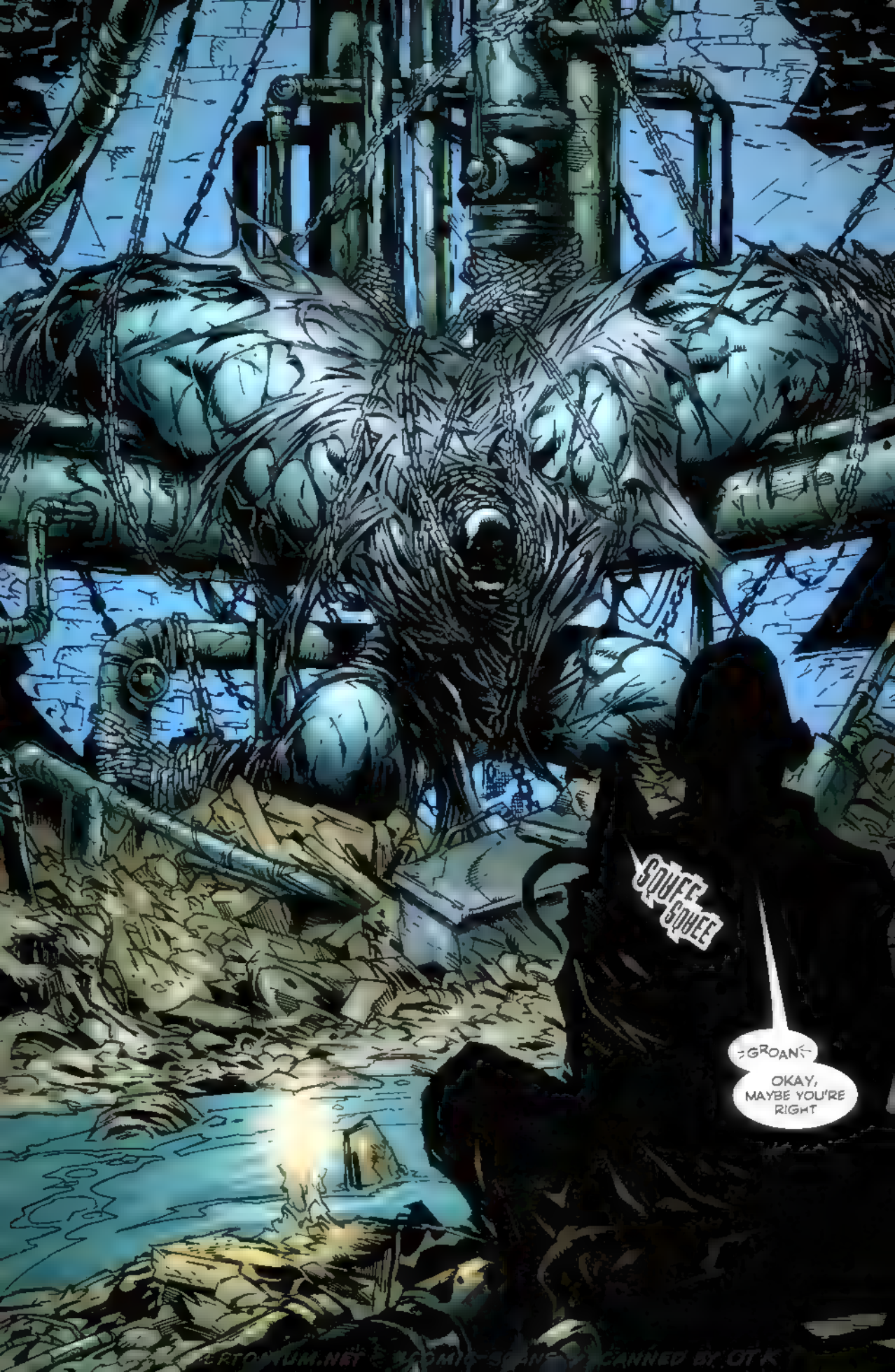
AND I WILL KILL ANYONE WHO TRIES TO KEEP ME PRISONER ONE MORE DAY HERE!
CONSIDER MY OFFER, BLACKSPELL. BEFORE THE OTHERS FIND OUT.
CRRRACK
CRACK
CRRACK
SCREEEE!

RAAAAAH!
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS.
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS.
RING! RINGG!
MEOW!
RING! RINGG!
MMMM?
RING! RINGG!
shoot.
CLIK

yes?
who?
Dad?
I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!
ZOOOOOOMM!
NORTHWESTERN HOSPITAL.
EMERGENCY
HEY! LADY --YOU CAN'T WALK THROUGH THERE! YOU NEED CLEARANCE!
CLEAR THIS!
EMER

SAM?!
ZORINA!
?
?
?
HUH?!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING TO MY FATHER?!
HOLD IT!
GET BACK!
LET HER THROUGH! SHE'S MY DAUGHTER!
OH, SAM! I thought you were never gonna wake up!
ZORINA, I'M-I'M BACK NOW THERE'S SOME QUESTIONS I HAVE TO ASK YOU.
It's about Espy
HUH?!

DEEP IN THE UNDERGROUND RUINS OF DARKKLON...
WHERE WOULD THEY BE WITHOUT US, HUH EDDIE? NOWHERE
DARKKEN MASTER HAS YET TO THANK US EVEN!
I'M TELLING YOU, HE'S REALLY BEEN TAKING OUR HARD WORK AND DEVOTION FOR GRANTED
SQUEE SQUEE
I'M LIABLE TO TAKE IT ALL BACK, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, EDDIE?
POOF!
AS QUICKLY AS I DISCOVERED IT--I CAN UN-DISCOVER IT!
SQUEE
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, EDDIE? NOBODY WOULD HAVE TO KNOW NOTHIN'!
SQUEE
B'SIDES, MAYBE THEN THEY'LL REALIZE JUST WHAT A CONTRIBUTION I TRULY MAKE.
SQUEE
SHUT-UP, ALREADY


SQUEE SQUEE
GROAN
OKAY, MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT

EEGS..
...PPYYYY.
HUH?
Did he just say something?
RUN, EDDIE! GIT!
ESPPPYYYY.
GRRRRLLLLLL.

ELSEWHERE, NOT TOO FAR AWAY...

COOO!

COOO!

COOO!

COOO! COOO!

SHOOMP

SPLASH

IT'S OKAY, SAM.

YOU CAN COME DOWN.

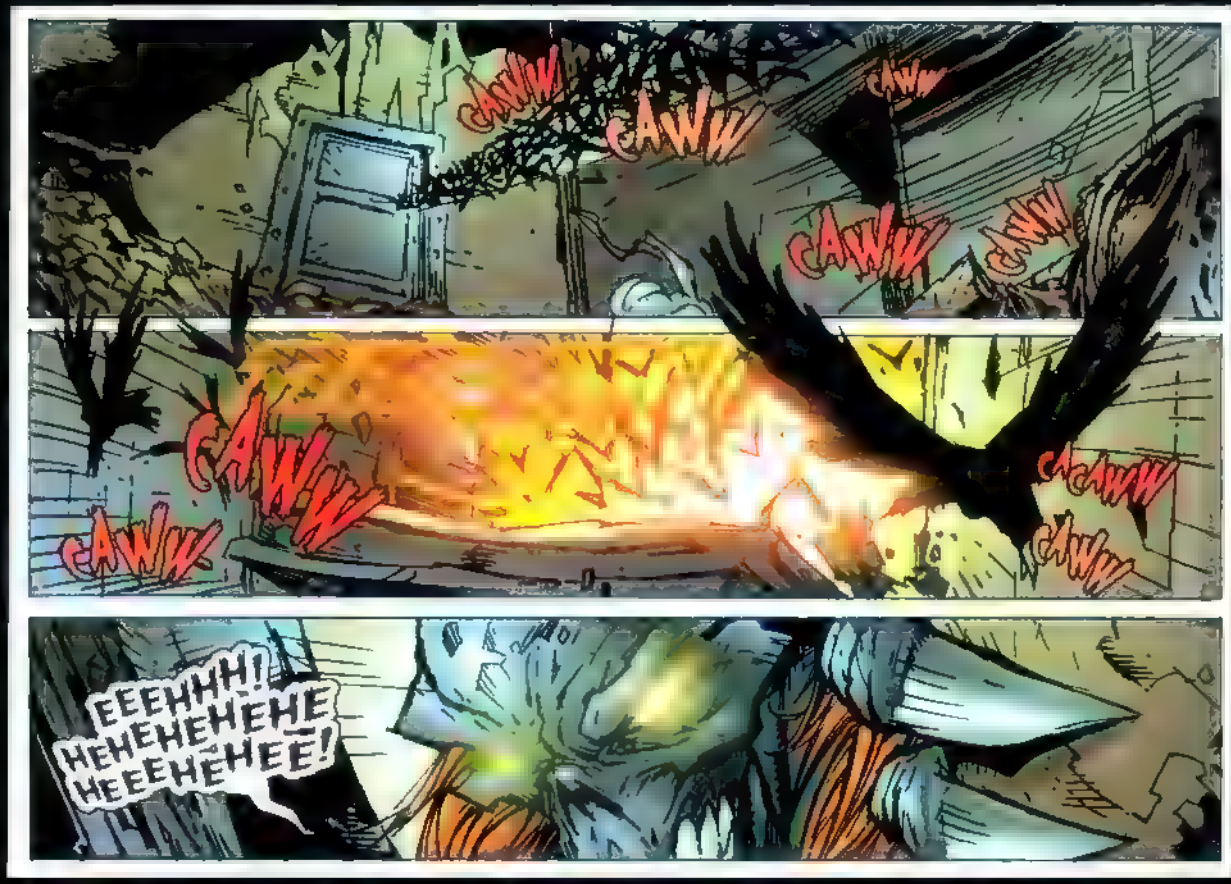
THANK YOU, ESPY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT YOU
DON'T GET MY HOPES UP.
SHHH... HEAR THAT?
NO. WHAT?
LIVE A NORMAL LIFE, MAYBE?
RUNNING WATER
THERE'S A LEDGE SOMEWHERE
AND WHERE THERE'S A LEDGE
THERE'S AN OPENING
HOW'S THE RADAR?
IT'S POINTING ME..
..THATAWAY!
THEN "THATAWAY" WE SHALL GO. C'MON.

THIS WHOLE PLACE IS SENDING SHIVERS DOWN MY SPINE. I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE SINCE
you know. .
SINCE YOU SAVED THE EARTH
IF YOU CAN CALL T THAT.
HOLD ON! STAY BEHIND ME!
WHAT IS IT?!
FALSE ALARM.
IT'S A F.A.R.-- A FULL ARMOR RUCKUS. ONE OF GOZZA'S TOYS. BUT IT'S JUST A HEAP OF SCRAP METAL NOW
BUT THE CANDLES, THE MESSAGE ON THE WALL ..
"BEWARE... BEYOND THIS DOOR IS ARMAGEDDON "
BEWAYRE!
BEYOND THIS DOOR IS
ARMGEDYN
SOMEONE'S DOWN HERE AND TRYING TO KEEP ANY VISITORS OUT. THAT MEANS US.
I NEVER DID LIKE FOLLOWING THE RULES
SO BLAST IT!
BOOM

STAY CLOSE TO ME
ANYTHING COULD BE IN HERE
IT'S A DEAD-END.
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT THIS MUST BE A TRAP.
SAM, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE
SAM?
WHUMP
AAAGH!

COVER YOUR HEAD!
IT'S AN AMBUSH!
BUT WHO?
YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED! THE DARKKEN MASTER HAS NO MERCY FOR THOSE WHO BREAK OUR RULES!
THEY'RE HUMAN?!? SOME SORT OF CULT!
NO, ESPY! MORE THAN A CULT...
...THE GUARDIANS OF LIFE-GIVING POWER!
KILLKROW!?!
I'VE BEEN TRICKED!

CAWW
I WILL DEAL WITH YOU LATER--
UHHN!
HUMP
CAWW
CAWW
CACAWW
CAWW
LORD RHAZES MIGHT JUST SHOW MERCY ON YOU AFTER ALL!
CAWW
CAWW
THE WRATH! IT IS HERE!
CAWW
CAWW
AGGHH!
BE MY EYES, DARK MINIONS!
CACAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
FIND THE TENTH!
CAWW



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www.darkhorse.com

CRASH
THE APOCALYPSE IS COMING!
TINK
SKREEEEK
TINK
THE "APOCALYPSE," HUH?
I'M GETTING CLOSER.

RHAZES DARKK'S MEDITATION ROOM, DARKKLON.
"I CAN FEEL YOU...
"...YOUR POWER GROWS RESTLESS.
"I CAN ALSO TASTE THE DECEPTION THAT GROWS WITH IT.
"IT DOESN'T SEEM THAT LONG AGO WHEN I BROUGHT YOU HERE... TO EARTH."
"MY PLANET SEEMS SO LONG AGO...

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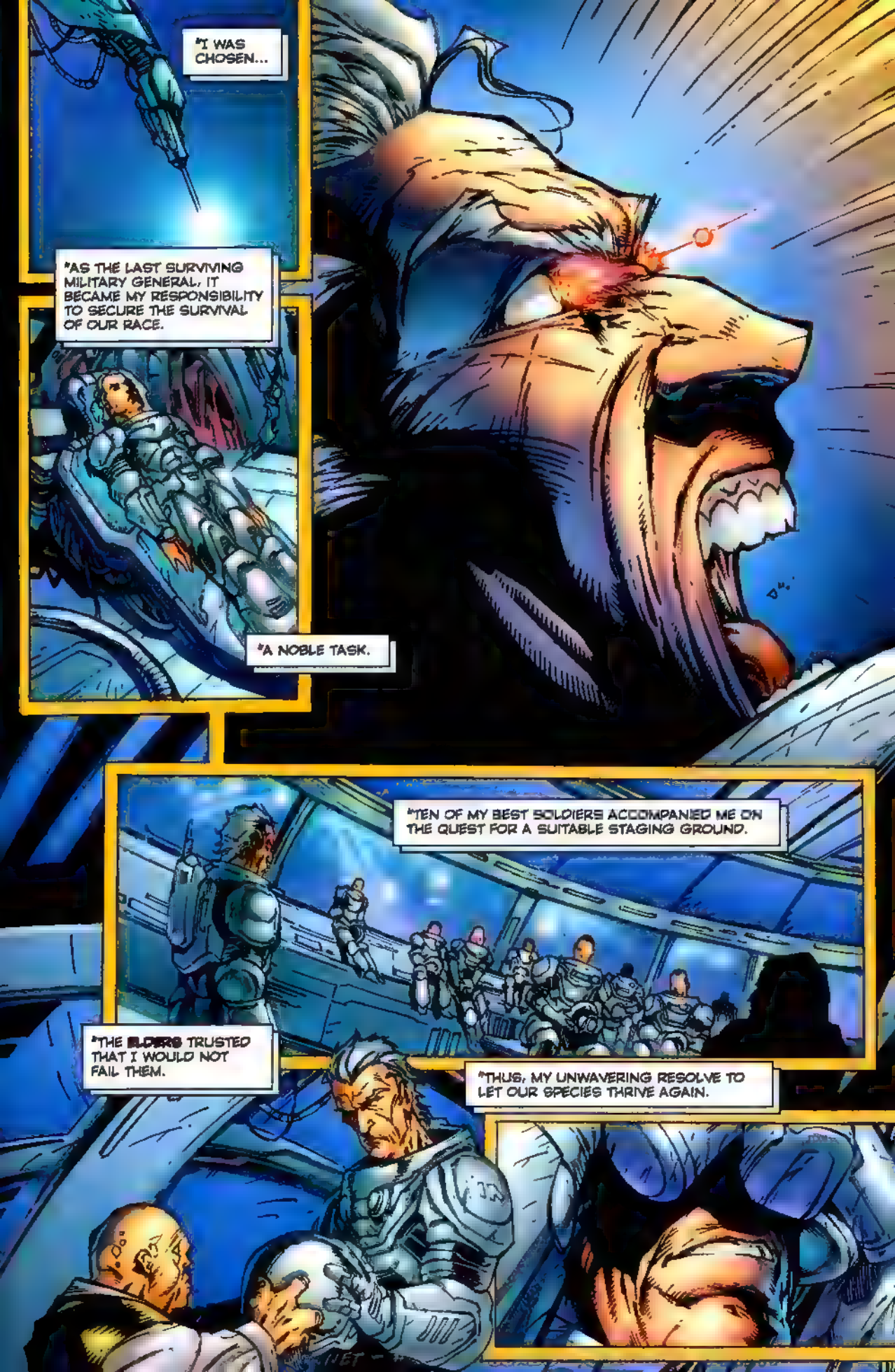
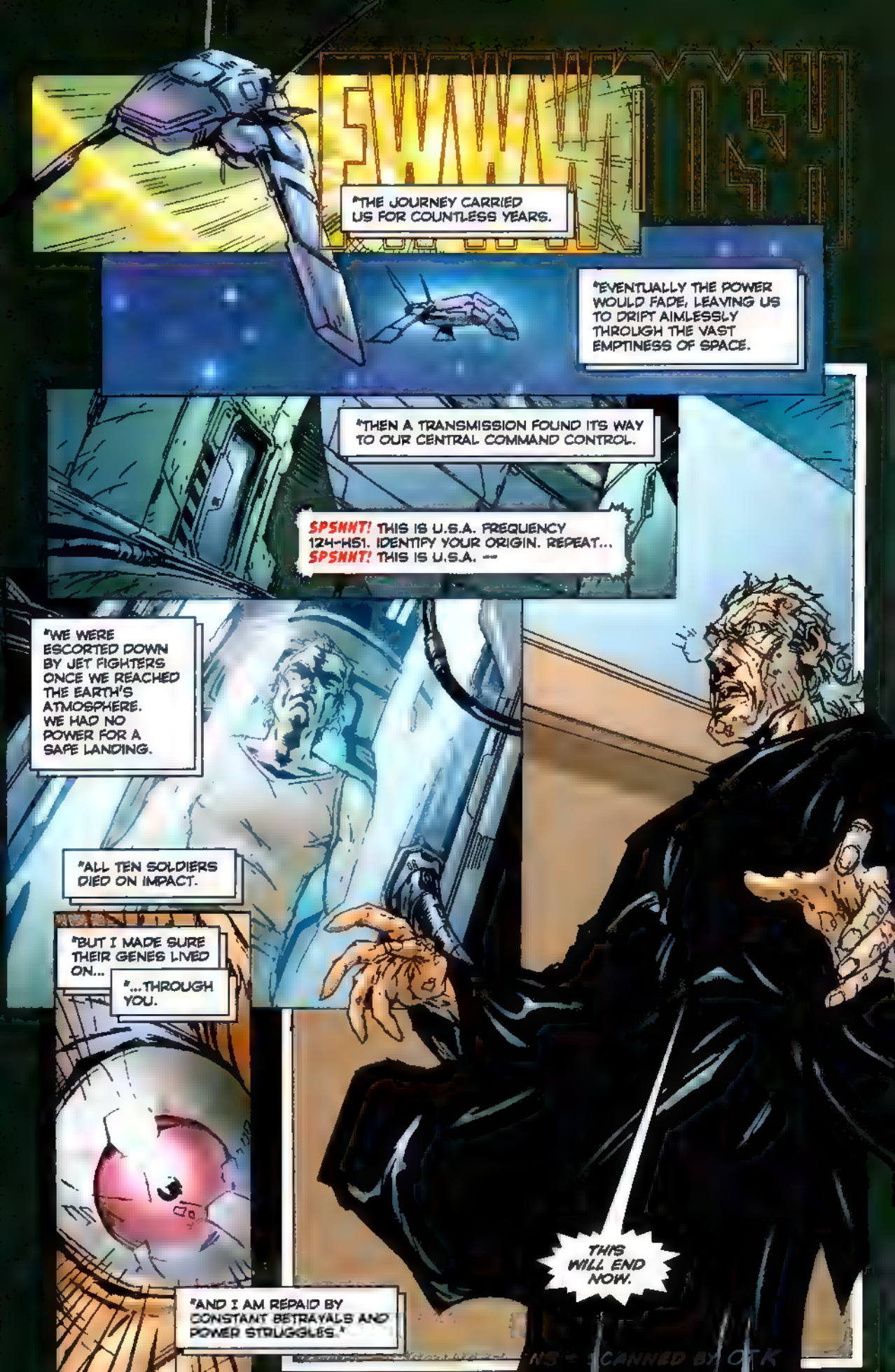
"...SO VERY LONG AGO.
"THE METEORITE STORMS THAT BROUGHT THE CATACLYSMIC FIRE WINDS OF RADIATION...
"...RAPIDLY DEVOURING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES.
"THE SEARCH PARTIES PROVED FUTILE.
"THERE WAS NO HOPE FOR LIFE.
"WE HAD LITTLE TIME...LITTLE HOPE TO SURVIVE AS A SPECIES...
...AS A PEOPLE.


"I WAS CHOSEN...
"AS THE LAST SURVIVING MILITARY GENERAL, IT BECAME MY RESPONSIBILITY TO SECURE THE SURVIVAL OF OUR RACE.
"A NOBLE TASK.
"TEN OF MY BEST SOLDIERS ACCOMPANIED ME ON THE QUEST FOR A SUITABLE STAGING GROUND.
"THE ELDERS TRUSTED THAT I WOULD NOT FAIL THEM.
"THUS, MY UNWAVERING RESOLVE TO LET OUR SPECIES THRIVE AGAIN.


SWASH
"THE JOURNEY CARRIED US FOR COUNTLESS YEARS.
"EVENTUALLY THE POWER WOULD FADE, LEAVING US TO DRIFT AIMLESSLY THROUGH THE VAST EMPTINESS OF SPACE.
"THEN A TRANSMISSION FOUND ITS WAY TO OUR CENTRAL COMMAND CONTROL.
SPSHHT! THIS IS U.S.A. FREQUENCY 124-H51. IDENTIFY YOUR ORIGIN. REPEAT...
SPSHHT! THIS IS U.S.A. --
"WE WERE ESCORTED DOWN BY JET FIGHTERS ONCE WE REACHED THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE. WE HAD NO POWER FOR A SAFE LANDING.
"ALL TEN SOLDIERS DIED ON IMPACT.
"BUT I MADE SURE THEIR GENES LIVED ON...
"...THROUGH YOU.
"AND I AM REPAID BY CONSTANT BETRAYALS AND POWER STRUGGLES."
THIS WILL END NOW.
CANNED BY CTK

CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
EVER HEAR OF FATE, KILLKROW?
WELL FATE JUST FELL IN OUR LAPS AND WE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER, SO IF YOU'RE AFRAID OF---
IT'S THE POWER I FEAR--- NOT RHAZES.
THEN IT'S SETTLED. WE WILL OVERTAKE RHAZES TONIGHT IN HIS SLEEP.
BETTER FOR US THAT WE KNOW NOW. MYSTACINA AND I HAVE NOT TRAVELED ALL THIS WAY TO WARM COLD FEET.
WHAT ABOUT DECIMATOR?

*AKA...THE TENTH?
CAWW
CAWW
GRRRRRRRRR.
ESPY...ESPY!
ESPY!
*HE'S MAGNIFICENT! IMAGINE... ALL THE POWER OF THE DARKKEL SPECIES FLOWING THROUGH HIS VEINS.
*SO BIG.
*SO POWERFUL.
MY GOD... I THINK I'M GETTING TURNED-ON!
A BUCKET OF COLD WATER, ANYONE?
YES, MYSTACINA— HE'S POWERFUL. BUT WE SHOULDN'T FORGET HE'S EQUALLY FRAGILE... ESPECIALLY IN HIS CURRENT STATE.
WE MUST BE CAREFUL IN OUR EFFORTS TO DRAIN HIS POWER.
*THAT MEANS CONTROL YOURSELVES.
HISSS!
AH!
THIS TIME... WE WILL NOT FAIL.
GANG - SCANNED BY OTK

SHHH!
I HEARD THAT. DID ANY OF YOU?
IT SEEMS THAT WE HAVE A VISITOR!
IN IRELAND, WE TREAT OUR VISITORS HOSPITABLY...
...BUT FIRST THEY MUST SHOW THEMSELVES!
NOW!
PREDATOR

RUMBLE RUMBLE
DON'T STOP ON THE COUNT OF ME!
YOUR CONVERSATION WAS JUST GETTING INTERESTING.
PATHETIC, BUT INTERESTING.
YOU NEED SOMEONE TO GUIDE YOUR DEMENTED MINDS INTO REALITY!
WOOOOOSH

BA-DOOOM!!
CRASH!
RAAAH!
GAWK
YOU HYBRID WEAKLING!
A DARKKEIL, HUH?
NOW YOU'LL KNOW WHAT THE POWER OF A DARKKEIL REALLY'S LIKE!
IS THAT PART OF THE COCKROACH FAMILY?

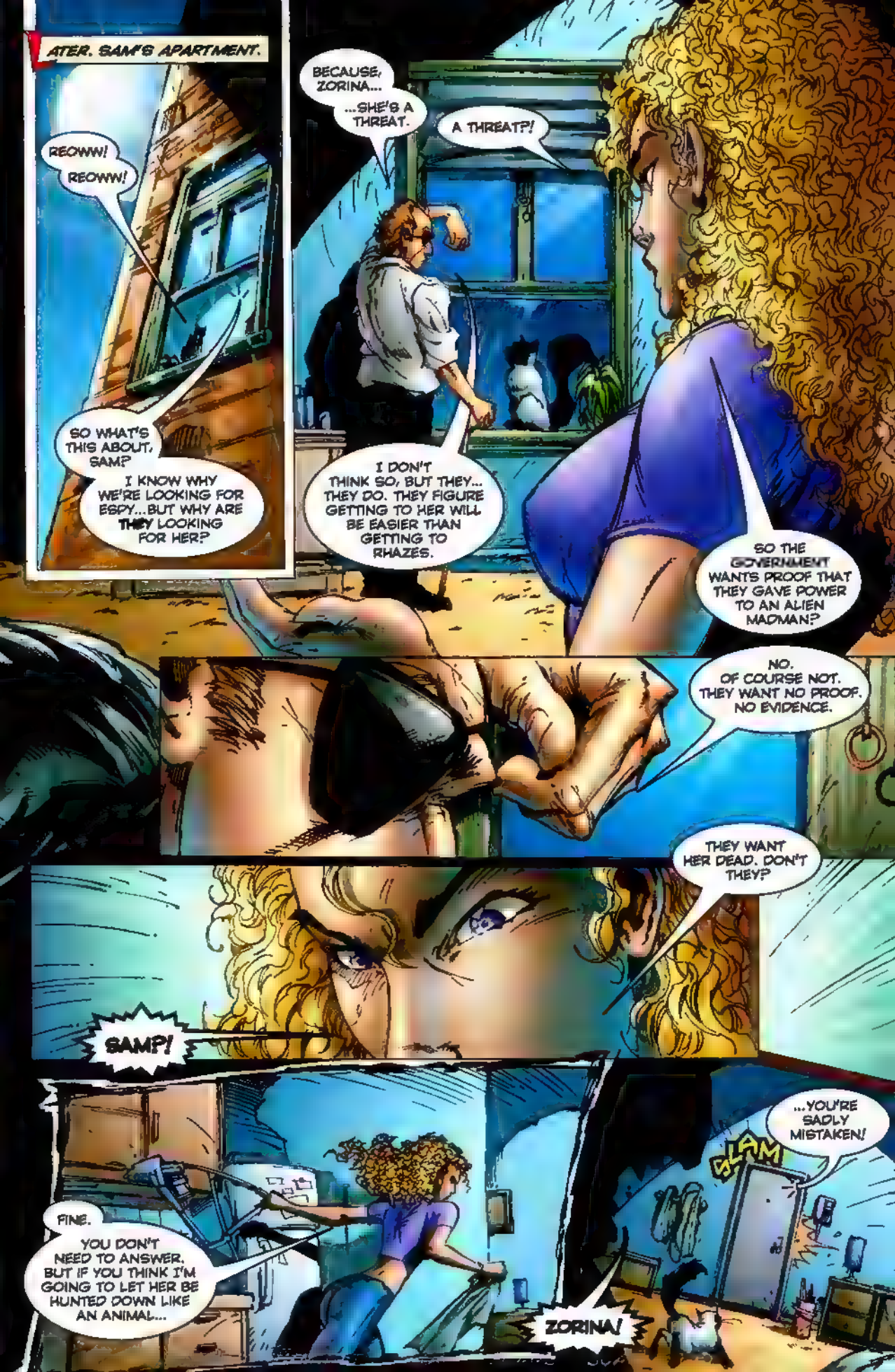
VICTOR!
VICTOR! YOU'RE ALIVE!
E-ESPY... I-I...
...I'M NOT ALIVE YET.
YOU DIDN'T THINK IT'D BE THAT EASY, DID YOU?!
HISSS!
AAAH!
HISSS!
SISSS!
IT'S YOU WHO THINKS THIS IS EASY IT WILL NEVER WORK, EVE.
YOUR PLANS FOR A MUTINY WILL BE SQUASHED JUST LIKE BEFORE!
SSSS!

YOU'RE A FOOL FOR COMING HERE. YOU'VE JUST SEALED OUR VICTORY.
VICTOR WILL BE MORE THAN WILLING TO SACRIFICE HIS POWER TO SAVE YOUR LIFE.
NO--NO HE WON'T!
AHHH!
SHHH
I WON'T LET HIM! I'LL DIE FIRST!
THAT CAN BE ARRANGED!
BUT NOT BY YOU!
DIE, YOU SCALEY SLUT!
AH!

CRRAACK
UHN!
ENOUGH, YOU TWO!
NOT THAT I MIND A CATFIGHT EV'RY NOW AND THEN, BUT I HAVE SERIOUS JET-LAG!
RRRUUMMBBLL
ONE OF YOU HAS TO DIE.

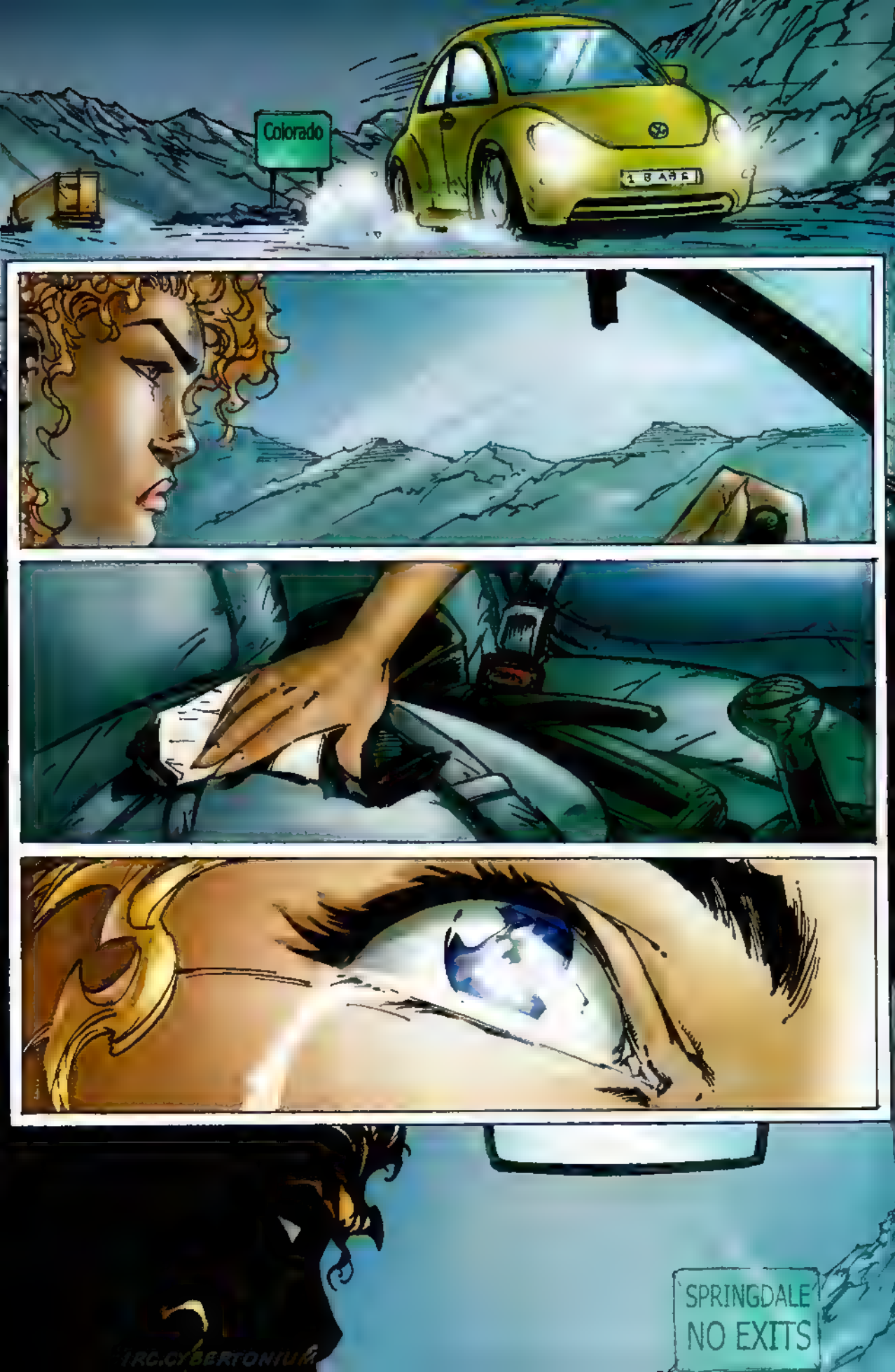
THAT'S THEIR CAR, THERE. PULL OVER.
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
NOTHING NOW. BUT IT USED TO BE THE ORIGINAL DARKKLON COMPLEX.
BEFORE IT IMPLODED, KILLING THOUSANDS OF SICK PEOPLE.
LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF SLIME.
GOOD. THEN WE KNOW THEY CAME THIS WAY.
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE CLOSING IN ON MS. ESPY. ARE YOU GONNA TELL ME OUR ORDERS NOW?
WE'RE TO FOLLOW HER TRAIL TO HER CONSPIRATORS. THE REST WILL BE UP TO ME. I KNOW HOW YOU DON'T LIKE TO GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY.

EVANSTON, ILLINOIS.
EMERGENC
C'MON SAM. WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE.
YOU SURE YOU CAN HANDLE A CRIPPLE?
SHUT UP. YOU'RE NOT A CRIPPLE. NOW LET'S GO.
GOOD GRIEF. FRIENDS OF YOURS?
SAM, GOOD TO SEE YOU UP AND ABOUT. AND WITH SUCH GOOD TIMING!
SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
SAM'S RETIRED NOW, SO YOU CAN GO HOME!
IT'S OKAY, ZORINA. WHAT IS IT, MARTHA?
A MISS DEL TORO. ESPERANZA. WE'VE LOCATED HER.
YOU'VE FOUND EGYP!
BERTO


LATER. SAM'S APARTMENT.
REOWW!
REOWW!
SO WHAT'S THIS ABOUT, SAM?
I KNOW WHY WE'RE LOOKING FOR ESPY...BUT WHY ARE THEY LOOKING FOR HER?
BECAUSE, ZORINA...
...SHE'S A THREAT.
A THREAT?!
I DON'T THINK SO, BUT THEY... THEY DO. THEY FIGURE GETTING TO HER WILL BE EASIER THAN GETTING TO RHAZES.
SO THE GOVERNMENT WANTS PROOF THAT THEY GAVE POWER TO AN ALIEN MADMAN?
NO. OF COURSE NOT. THEY WANT NO PROOF. NO EVIDENCE.
THEY WANT HER DEAD. DON'T THEY?
SAM?!
...YOU'RE SADLY MISTAKEN!
SLAM
FINE.
YOU DON'T NEED TO ANSWER. BUT IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO LET HER BE HUNTED DOWN LIKE AN ANIMAL...
ZORINA!

SHIFT
SHIFT
SQUEE SQUEE
SQUEE SQUEE
SQUEE SQUEE
SQUEE SQUEE
GOOD EVENING, BLACKSPELL
WELL? COME IN, COME IN. I'LL CATCH A DRAFT.
I'M AFRAID I BRING MORE BAD NEWS, MASTER DARKK.
MORE INNER QUARRELLING I'D PRESUME?
YOU WILL BE BETRAYED ONCE AGAIN, MASTER.

OUR ALLIANCE MAY HAVE HAD MORE CRACKS THAN WE THOUGHT.
IT SEEMS THERE IS A PLOT TO ONCE AGAIN MERGE THE POWERS YOU GAVE US AND OVER-THROW YOU AS SUPREME LEADER OF OUR RACE.
WHAT HAVE I CREATED? SURELY THIS INFERIOR SPECIES ARE NOT SUITABLE HOSTS FOR OUR GENES.
WE ARE IN A RACE THEN.
A RACE TO EMPTY THEIR BLOOD OF THE ORGANISMS YOU HOLD SO PRECIOUS. YOU HAVE NO CHOICE. THEY MUST ALL BE KILLED.
THEY HAVE THE TENTH IN THEIR POSSESSION. HE WILL SERVE AS THEIR ENERGY SOURCE.
FOOLS!
I HAVE BEEN FAR TOO LENIENT!
THIS TIME...I WILL SHOW NO MERCY!
WHUMP
FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THE DARKKEIL--
--YOU WILL ALL DIE!


Colorado
SPRINGDALE
NO EXITS

ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GLOBE...
HMM. THIS ONE LOOKS SEMI-FRESH
CHUNK
UHG! ROTTEN!
JUST LIKE THE OTHERS!
THUNK
HOPE I'M NOT INTERRUPTING
WOW, SOME FEAST YOU HAVE PLANNED?
ELIXIR! YOU KNOW BETTER THAN TO SHADOW ME! YOU COULD END UP DEAD!
AND WHAT-- MISS ALL THE FUN GOING ON WITH THE OTHER DARKK ONES?
I DON'T THINK SO!

TO BE CONTINUED...

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PART 4

EVIL THINGS COME IN SMALL PACKAGES

WRITTEN BY TONY DANIEL ART BY ROMANO and TONY DANIEL

COLORS BY TRANSPARENCY LETTERS BY KATHLEEN and DAN AT FISHBRAINS

PUBLISHER MIKE RICHARDSON EDITOR RANDY STRADLEY PUBLISHED BY DARK HORSE COMICS

HEH HEHAHHAHAHA!
ME? I'VE TAKEN THE TENTH ONE NOWHERE...IN FACT IT IS I WHO NOW SEEKS TO FREE HIM!
THEN LET ME OUT OF HERE. I WILL HELP YOU FREE HIM.
THIS IS SOME SORT OF TRICK. I CAN SMELL IT.
SNIFF! SNIFF!
YOU'LL KILL ME AS FAST AS I LET YOU OUT!
I-I AM A FRIEND OF THE TENTH.
NOW LET ME OUT!
SEE, SQUEEKERS?! THIS IS WHY YOU MUST NEVER VENTURE OFF ON YOUR OWN AGAIN!
CAREFUL. TOO MUCH FORCE WILL CAUSE THE CAGE TO CAVE IN ON US!
I'M SORRY!
DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING! IT'LL ALL COME DOWN!
CREAK CREAK
RUMBLE
>MOBIK
CAWW
WHAT HAVE YOU GOTTEN ME INTO, SQUEEKERS?!
IRC.CYBERTONIU

MORE OF THE EVIL ONES' SABOTAGE--
THE FLESH EATING CROWS!
WHOEVER YOU ARE, GIRL... YOU ARE AN ENEMY OF MY ENEMY.
THAT MAKES US FRIENDS...
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
SCAT!
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
RUN, SQUEEKERS!
FWOOSH

DON'T RUN!
FWOOOSH
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
YAAAAAAA!
THEY CAN SENSE YOUR MOVEMENTS!
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
TELL THEM TO STOP CHASING ME AND I'LL STOP RUNNING!
CLUNK
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
I'M DOOMED!
FUSHHHHAAAATT
YOU... YOU'RE A DARKK CREATURE--
GET UP.
WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE.

ELSEWHERE, WITHIN THE BOWELS OF DARKKLON...
WHAT THE DEVIL ARE WE TO DO WITH HIM NOW, SLITHERIN' SISTER? HE'S ALL... PUNY AND HUMAN!
SSSS

MISS, WE'RE—UH—NOT EVER SUPPOSED TO COME THROUGH HERE.
SAYS WHO?
THE DARKK MASTER, THAT'S WHO! THE APOCALYPSE IS INCUBATING NOT FAR FROM US.
AND WHAT DOES THIS "APOCALYPSE" LOOK LIKE?
OH, MY!
BIG TEETH
SLITHERY SCALES.
LARGE.
FANGS DOWN TO HERE!
I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE. MOSTLY ON BLIND DATES.
I'M GOING IN FOR A BETTER LOOK
NO! IT IS FORBIDDEN! NO SICK-ONES HAVE EVER SEEN IT WITH THEIR OWN EYES!
MY GOD... I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
IT'S GOZZA!
I HEAR THE FLESH EATING BIRDS AGAIN...
...I think.
HOW CAN IT BE?
GOZZA WAS DEAD!

THE DARKK ONES NEVER DIE...
MASTER DARKK!
...THE DARKK ONES ONLY REGENERATE. THEY ARE IMMORTAL. BROTHER GLEASON, YOU HAVE PROVED AN UNWORTHY SERVANT OF LORD DARKK.
YOU AND YOUR INTRUDER MUST BE PUNISHED.
BY YOU AND WHAT ARMY?
THIS ARMY!
AAAGHH!
RRRUMBLE

BLACK'SPELL!
YOU TREACHEROUS WRETCH!
DO YOU NOT FEEL THE BLOOD THAT RUNS THROUGH YOUR VERY VEINS?
AS A MATTER OF FACT I DO...
GAAARRRAHH!
...AND IT SICKENS ME!
RAVAGE!
WAA! WAAAAAAA!
THE APOCOLYPSE! HE MUST NOT BE STIRRED!
BLACK'SPELL-- NO!
I WILL NOW TAKE POSSESSION OF OUR SALVATION--
JOIN ME, ESPERANZA...EMBRACE YOUR DESTINY!
DON'T WORRY--I'LL GET HIM!
HA
HAH
HAH
HA
HA
HAH

GOTCHA!
FOOL!
WHOOSH
GET OUT OF THE WAY!
WE-WE'RE IN TROUBLE NOW... RIGHT?
YOU-YOU JUST KILLED ONE OF LORD DARKK'S MINIONS! WHAT DO WE DO NOW?!
GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.
AND WHAT DO WE DO WITH HIM? HE'S-HE'S GROWING!
HE'S COMING WITH US.

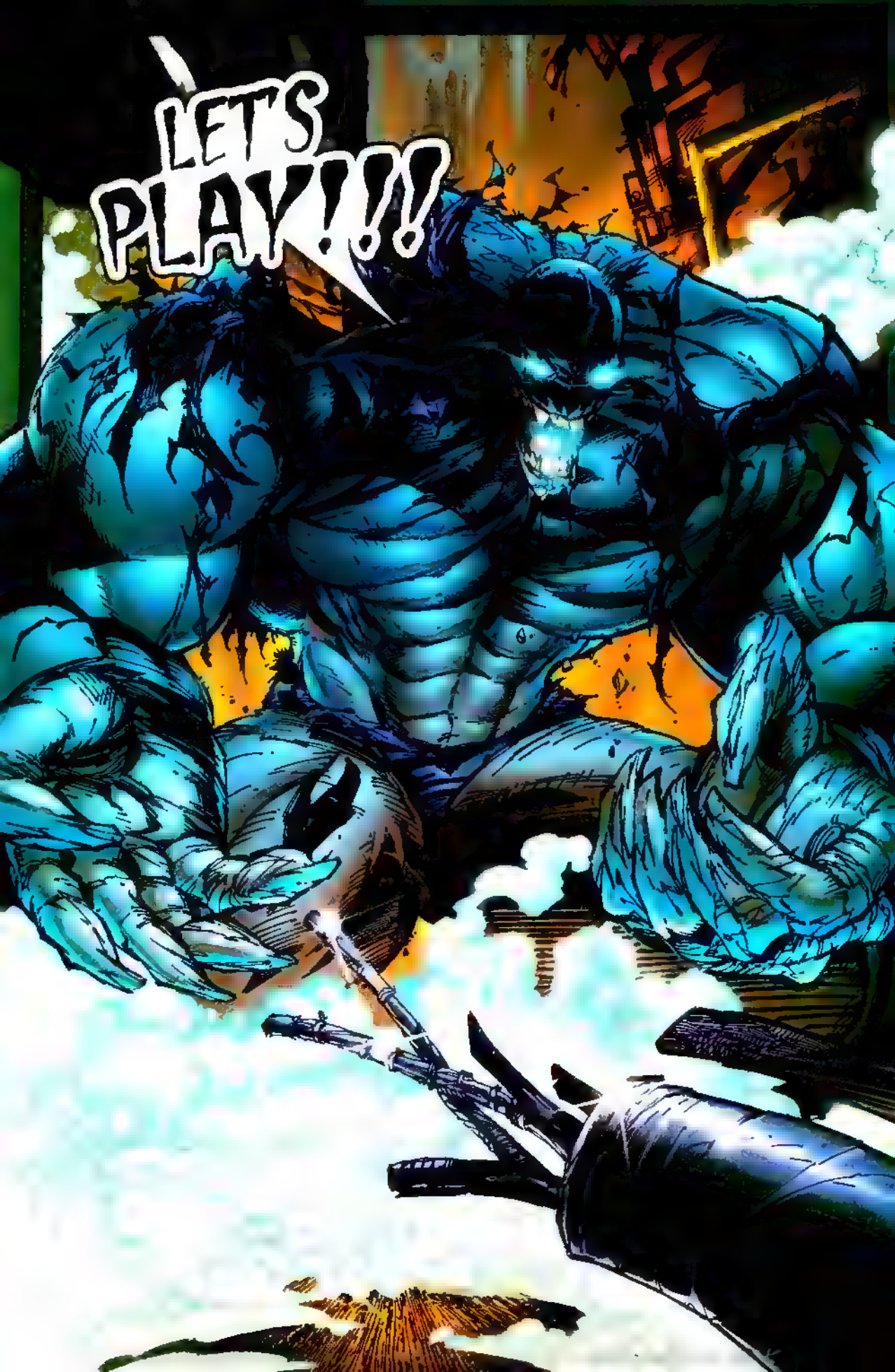
A LITTLE WHILE LATER AND A MILE DEEPER...
WE'RE ALMOST THERE... I THINK!
THANK YOU FOR GUIDING ME. .
GLEASON. THE NAME IS GLEASON.
THANK YOU, GLEASON. SHHH...
...I THINK HE'S WAKING UP
I'VE BEEN AWAKE FOR A THOUSAND YEARS, ESPERANZA...
THANK YOU FOR PLAYING SURROGATE TO ME...
...BUT BUSINESS CALLS!
GOZZA!
HE FLIES!
WE CAN'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
C.CYBERTONIUM.NET

AAARRGHH!
ZZZZT
SOON, HE WILL BE A LIFELESS CORPSE--
AND I--I WILL HAVE SUCKED OFF THE LAST OF HIS POWERS!
I--I CAN FEEL THE SNAKES...DRAINING MY BODY OF ITS POWER. TAKE IT FROM ME...THIS UNWANTED CURSE!
AAARRGHH!
YOU WANT IT--I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU!
GOODIE! I'M NOT TOO LATE!

DON'T ACT SO SURPRISED!
YOU SHOULD'VE KNOWN I WOULD AWAKEN AT YOUR DECEPTION!
IT'S GOZZA! HE'S ALIVE!
THE TENTH POWER IS RESERVED FOR ME--THE CHOSEN HEIR TO THE THRONE OF THE DARKKEIL!
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
CAWW
ONLY A MINOR INTERRUPTION, MYST!
FFFWWWOOOSH!
YOUR CROWS WON'T STOP HIM, MUSCLE!
HE NEEDS A BONE SHOCK TO SEND HIM BACK TO THE GRAVE!

NONE OF YOU CAN MATCH MY POWER. IT'S OBVIOUS THAT I AM SUPERIOR!
A SUPERIOR BRAT!
SSZZHHH
AHH!
THAT LEAVES JUST US, GOZZA.
LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH..
ESPERANZA, I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR YOUR PARANOIA. I HAVE NO INTENTION OF KILLING EITHER ONE OF YOU.
IN FACT, I AM EXTENDING MY HAND IN FRIENDSHIP TO YOU BOTH.

YOU-- SAVED ME, GOZZA WHY?
DON'T GET STUPID ON ME, DeLEON.
I SAVED YOU BECAUSE I NEED YOU --ALIVE.
I WON'T BE YOUR PAWN ANYMORE, GOZZA. THIS PISSING CONTEST BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR WARPED BUDDIES IS ENDING.
...RIGHT HERE...
...AND RIGHT NOW!
YOU WANT TO PLAY--


LET'S
PLAY!!!

VICTOR, WAIT!
IF WE CAN JUST TRUST HIM...IT MAY BE OUR ONLY CHANCE TO REALLY DESTROY RHAZES DARKK!
IT'S ONLY A TRICK, ESPY-- THE BLOOD THAT RUNS THROUGH THESE VEINS IS CAPABLE OF ALTERING LIFE ON EARTH AS WE KNOW IT. I WILL NOT GIVE THAT RESPONSIBILITY TO A CHILD-MONSTER.
I WANT TO BE NORMAL! I DON'T WANT TO BE A MONSTER ANYMORE! PLEASE, DeLEON -- HELP ME DEFEAT A COMMON ENEMY!
WE SHOULD GIVE HIM A CHANCE--
JOIN ME. TOGETHER WE CAN DEFEAT RHAZES DARKK! NOW, VICTOR -- BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
I-I'M SORRY, ESPY. I CAN'T DO IT.

RUMBLE
AN F.A.R./ LET ME HANDLE THIS/
WHAT NOW?!
NO -- IT IS YOU WHO WILL BE HANDLED.
THESE GUYS ARE ONLY SHELLS/
CRASH
WATCH OUT-- HERE COMES ANOTHER!
AAAI!

ESS-PYYYYY!
THRASSH
THEY'RE POSSESSED! GOZZA IS DOING THIS!
VICTOOOOOOR!
G-GA--- GAA--- GAG!

SORRY WE'RE LATE!
BUT WE'RE RIGHT IN TIME FOR THE ACTION!
OH NO! RAMSAR— YOU'VE KILLED GOZZA!
IT WAS YOUR IDEA TO BUST THE WALL DOWN!
OH, SHUT UP! HELP ME GET HIS BODY! THIS IS TERRIBLE!
AHHH!
THE PARTY'S OVER!
THEN WE'LL LEAVE YOU WITH A MEMENTO!

IRC.CYBERTONIUM.NET - #COMIC-SCANS - SCANNED BY OTK

LIKE YOUR HEAD!
SQUAAAAACKK
BDOOOOM
WE ARE ALL MONSTERS!
CAN'T YOU SEE THAT, ESPY? CAN'T YOU SEE WHAT A DANGEROUS PLACE WE MAKE THE WORLD?
Y-YES... I do.
THEN LETS GET OUT OF HERE. RHAZES CAN TRY TO CONDUCT HIS ALIEN CONSTRUCTION WITHOUT THE HELP OF HIS MINIONS. IT'S UP TO THE GOVERNMENT TO SHUT HIM DOWN NOW.
ARE THEY DEAD? ALL OF THEM?
I DON'T KNOW.

IRC.CYBERTONIUM.NET - #COMIC-SCANS - SCANNED BY QTK

DAMN! DAMN! DAMN!
I CAN'T BELIEVE PEOPLE GET PAID FOR MAKING THESE MAPS! HOW IS ANYONE SUPPOSED TO READ THIS?!
OHMYGOD! ESPY! VICTOR??!!
ESPY!
I'M OKAY, ZORINA...JUST A LITTLE BEAT.
I'M GOING TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.
ALTHOUGH... WE MAY HAVE A PROBLEM WITH YOU AGAIN. SHOULDA BROUGHT THE SUV, HUH?
SCANNED BY OTH

WHAT...
...MAKES YOU...
...SAY THAT?
LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVE PLENTY OF ROOM.
ONWARDS TO EVANSTON, ILLINOS!
AND STEP ON IT!
INSIDE DARKKLON, RHAZES DARKK MEDITATES.
ENTER!
CREEEEAK
YOUR BIDDING IS DONE, MASTER.
I HAVE COLLECTED THE BLOOD OF THE DECEASED SUBJECTS. WE'LL BE READY TO START LOOKING FOR NEW SUBJECTS SOON.
BY THIS TIME NEXT MONTH, YOU'LL BE READY TO CONQUER THE EARTH AS HAS BEEN FORESEEN.
NEXT:
THE NIGHTWALKERS!
COMING IN APRIL!